

INTERESTING REPORT BY COL. STREIGHT.

Rebel Treatment of Union Prisoners—Flagrant Violation of his Terms of Surrender—Outrages to which his Men were Subjected

WILLARD'S HOTEL, WASHINGTON, D. C.,
March 2, 1864.

Hon. F. W. Kellogg, House Committee on Military Affairs.

Dear Sir: Agreeable to your request, I have the honor to report the following facts in relation to the treatment of our officers and men by the rebel authorities:

It is impossible for me to give you an account of all the acts of barbarity, inhumanity and bad faith I have witnessed during my captivity; but I will endeavor to mention such instances as will give you an accurate idea of the true condition of our men as possible.

On the 31st of May last, near Rome, Ga., my command having become so reduced by hard fighting and sickness, during the seven days previous, that it was evident to me that we (about fifteen hundred officers and men) would fall into the hands of the enemy, and, after holding a council of war with my regimental commanders, it was decided to capitulate, and thus to secure the best terms possible for the command as a condition of surrender. In accordance with this decision I met the rebel commander, Gen. Forrest, under a flag of truce, when a stipulation was entered into between him and myself, whereby it was agreed that my command should surrender as prisoners of war, on the following conditions, to-wit:

1. Each regiment should be permitted to retain its colors.
2. The officers to retain their side arms.
3. Both officers and men were to retain their haversacks, knapsacks and blankets; and all private property of every description was to be respected and retained by the owner.

The above terms were in a measure respected while we remained with General Forrest; but no sooner were we turned over to the rebel authorities than a system of robbing commenced, which soon resulted in everything valuable in our possession. The blankets, haversacks and knapsacks were taken from my men at Atlanta. They were also robbed of nearly all their money, and most of them lost their overcoats at the above named place. Here, too, the colors and side arms were taken from us. My men were turned into an enclosure without shelter of any kind, destitute of blankets and overcoats, as I have before stated, and kept under guard for four days, during which time a most disagreeable cold storm prevailed; after which they were sent forward to Richmond and soon exchanged.

My officers were sent to Richmond, after a stay of about ten days in Atlanta. On our arrival at the rebel capital we were all searched separately, and all money found in our possession were taken from us. For a few days thereafter we were allowed to draw small sums of our money for the purpose of purchasing food. But this privilege was soon denied us.

I then asked and obtained permission from the rebel authorities for the officers to send home for money, clothing and provisions. The clothing and provisions were generally delivered to the parties ordering them, providing the package or box containing them was not broken open and rifled of its contents before it reached its destination, which was frequently the case; but in no case within my knowledge has the money been delivered to the owner.

The retention of this money, after expressly agreeing to deliver it, is an act of perfidy that beggars description. I have repeatedly called the attention of the rebel authorities to the terms of my surrender, and demanded that its provisions be complied with; but General Winder, commander of the prisoners, took from me the stipulations signed by General Forrest, which he still retains, and refused to be governed by its provisions. My officers, together with something near one thousand other United States officers, are confined in a large warehouse building, with an average space of about twenty-five feet square to each man. This includes all room for washing, cooking, eating, sleeping and exercising. They have no blankets, chairs or seats of any kind furnished them, consequently they both sit and sleep on the floor.

The windows of the building were entirely open until about the middle of December last, when pieces of canvas were furnished for the purpose of closing them to keep the cold out; but, as this would leave us in the dark, we were compelled to leave a portion of them open and endure the cold.

Many of the officers were entirely destitute of blankets until our government sent a quantity to us in the fore part of the winter. The supply of blankets is now exhausted, and officers who have been captured during the last six weeks have none furnished them.

The rations furnished both officers and men by the rebels consist of about one pound of corn bread, made from unboltheaded meal, and one-fourth of a pound of poor fresh meat, per day. The meat has been issued to the prisoners but about half the time since the first of December last. In addition to the rations of bread and meat as above stated, the prisoners draw about two quarts of rice to one hundred men.

There is a sufficient quantity of salt furnished, and a very small quantity of vinegar. I will here remark that, in a few instances, six or eight times as much of a small quantity of sweet potatoes has been issued instead of the rations of meat.

The above is the sum total of the rations issued to our officers and men now prisoners of war.

The condition of our unfortunate enlisted men, now in the hands of the enemy, is much worse than that of the officers. From early in May last, when I arrived in Richmond, to about the 1st of December, all the enlisted men were taken to what is called Belle Island, and turned into an enclosure like so many cattle in a slaughter pen. Very few of them had tents, or shelter of any kind, and the few tents furnished were so poor and leaky as to render them but little better than none.

All the prisoners are taken to Libby when they first arrive in Richmond, for the purpose of counting them and enrolling their names; consequently I had a fair chance to see their condition when they arrived. Fully one half the prisoners taken since May last were robbed by their captors of their shoes, and nearly all were robbed of their overcoats, blankets and haversacks. At least one third of them had been compelled to trade their pants and blouses for mere rags that would scarcely hide their nakedness. Very many of them were entirely bareheaded, and not

a few, as late as the middle of December, were brought in who had nothing on but a pair of old ragged pants and a shirt, being bareheaded, barefooted, and without a blouse, overcoat or blanket.

I have seen hundreds of our men taken to the hospitals thus clad, and in a dying condition. I have frequently visited the hospital, and conversed with large numbers of dying men, brought there from the island, who assured me that they had been compelled to lie out in the open air, without any medical attendance, though for several days they had been unable to walk.

Though destitute of anything like quarters, and nearly naked during the cold, stormy and chilly fall season, the first and chief complaint of all those I saw and talked with was on account of an insufficient quantity of food. I will here remark that, no instance have the rebel authorities furnished clothing or blankets to our men. During the winter large numbers of our men were frozen. I heard one of the rebel surgeons in charge say that there were twenty of our men who would have to suffer amputation from the effects of frost. This was before the coldest weather had commenced.

Sometimes in the fore part of December a portion of our men were removed from the island to some large buildings, where they were more comfortably quartered; but there has been no time since May last but what more or less men have been kept on the island, in the open air, and without blankets and overcoats. It is a common thing for the rebels to keep our men for several days without food. This was particularly the case with a portion of the Gettysburg prisoners. Some went as long as six days without food, and were compelled to march during the time. The officers captured at Chickamauga assure me that they and their men were robbed of everything. Many of them lost their coats, hats and boots as soon as captured, and then were nearly starved and frozen.

I trust you will pardon me for the tedious length of this communication. If you will bear with me I will only call your attention to a few of the outrages practiced on our officers and men in the prison discipline. Under the building known as Libby prison is a large cellar, in which they have several cells partitioned off. Several of them are without any light, but some have windows below the pavement. These cells are used for the purpose of confining severely such of the prisoners as the authorities may feel will attempt to escape, as well as such as may chance to offend one of the many petty officials and prison attendants. Some of our unfortunate men are continually confined in these filthy holes on one pretext or another. It is the uniform practice to feed any and all persons sent to these cells on bread and water only. Lieutenant Reed, of the 3d Ohio Volunteers, was thrown into one of these cells and kept there for forty-eight hours, without anything to eat or drink during the time. He was not allowed any blanket nor his overcoat. The weather was very damp and cold, and he at that time was suffering from a most severe wound in the hip.

On the night of the 19th of December I received a communication purporting to come from one in authority, stating that for one hundred dollars in greenbacks and two silver watches, myself and my friend would be permitted to pass the guard.

Some days previous to this one of my officers succeeded in making his escape in this way, and although I was not without apprehension that it was a trap, nevertheless I resolved to try the experiment. Accordingly Capt. B. C. G. Reed, of the 3d Ohio, and myself went to the designated place at the appointed hour, where we were assured that it was all right. We complied with the terms and passed out; but no sooner were we outside the guard lines than Lieut. La Touche, the Adjutant of the prison, and seven men sprang out from a concealed place and commenced firing upon us without halting us. We were unarmed and could do nothing but surrender. We were taken back to the prison, put in irons and thrown into one of these filthy holes called cells, where we were kept for three weeks on bread and water. The weather was very cold during the time and we nearly perished. There was a large amount of filth in the cell, which I could not induce them to remove, nor could I get them to permit me to remove it. I also asked for a box to sit on, of which there was a large number in the cells. But everything was denied me. At the time I was taken to the cell there were six of our men confined in one of these cells for attempting to escape. They had been there for six days without blankets, and two of them were very sick. They were released at the end of seven days of their confinement.

I might continue to enumerate instances of a similar character, but these will answer to give you an idea of what is daily taking place. I cannot describe to you the loathsome filthiness of these cells. They are infested with an innumerable number of rats and mice, and they have no mark of having been cleaned since they were first built. It is useless for me to say that no man can survive a long confinement in a place of this kind; and although I am acquainted with several persons who have been confined there, I do not know one who can now be called a well man.

As I have before remarked, it is impossible for me to enumerate in this communication but a few of the many acts of barbarity which have come under my notice, though I have endeavored to give a correct conclusion relative to the treatment of our unfortunate men are receiving at the hands of the inhuman people with whom we are at war. They seem lost to every principle of humanity, and it is my candid opinion that their brutality to our prisoners is only measured by their fears.

I have the honor to be, most respectfully, your obedient servant,
A. D. BRANTON,
Col. 51st Ind. Volunteers.

An Extraordinary Death

The Schenck Star tells the following: A lady, married and having a large family living in Johnston, died under rather singular circumstances some days since. She pretended to have learned, by visitation or premonition, the exact period of her death, and a short time previous to that event, made all preparations for it, paying farewell visits to her numerous friends, arranging her grave clothes, &c. She did not appear to dread the speedy death which she believed in store for her; she spoke of it as the world of an ordinary occurrence, and seemed to believe that others would be so reassured. On Saturday, apparently in her usual health, she did her own washing and baking, washed herself from head to foot, wrote two farewell letters to her

children, and finally carried the clothes she threw off up two pairs of stairs and hung them carefully away, saying she should not need them again. She spoke truly, for next morning she was found dead in her bed. The lady was not deranged, and her well-known character precluded the idea of her taking means to make her belief come true.

A Backward Cow Ride.

During the Revolutionary War when a corps of the American army was encamped near the borough of Elizabethtown, New Jersey, an officer, who by the way, was more of a devotee of Venus than of Mars, paid his addresses to a lady of distinction, whom he was in the habit of visiting nightly. On a discovery of the repeated absence of the officer, and of the place where interviews with his delinquent wife were held, some waggish friends resolved to play off a handsome trick at his expense, which should deter him from a repetition of his visits.

The officer it appears, rode a very small horse of the pony kind, which he left untied with the bridle reins over his neck, near the door, in order to mount and ride off without delay, when the business of courting and kissing was over, and the horse always remained till backed by the owner, without attempting to change his position. On a certain dark and gloomy night, when the officer had, as usual, gone to pay his devotions to the object of his dearest affections, and was enjoying the approving smiles of the lovely fair one, his waggish companions went privately to the door of the house where the officer was, took his saddle and bridle from the horses, which they sent away, placed the bridle on the tail and the saddle on the back, and the crupper over the horn of a quiet old cow, who stood peacefully chewing her cud near the spot. Immediately thereafter they retired some distance from the house, and separating, raised the cry of alarm, that the enemy had landed and were marching into the village.

One here, on hearing this, took counsel from his fears, and snatching a hasty kiss, he shot out of the door with the velocity of a musket ball, and mounted in to the saddle, with his back toward the head of the cow, and plunging his sharp spurs keenly into her sides caused her to bawl out with excessive pain, and she darted in her best gallop towards the camp. The officer still plying his spurs with all his wine on board—finding himself hurriedly backwards, mangled all his efforts to advance, and hearing the repeated bawlings of the tortured beast, imagined that he was carried off by magic, and roaring out most lustily that the devil had got him—was thus carried into the very center of the camp.

The sentinels hearing the noise, discharged their pieces and fled, and alarm guns were fired—the drums beat to arms, the officers left their quarters and cried "turn out," with all the strength of their lungs. The soldiers started from their sleep as if a ghost had disturbed their dreams, and the whole body running half naked as quick as possible in gallant *dis-habille*, prepared to repel the terrible invader. When, lo! the ludicrous sight presented itself to their eyes, of the gallant officer, mounted on a cow, with his face towards her tail—her tongue hanging out of her sides going with the going of the spurs, and he himself almost deprived of reason, and half petrified with horror.

A loud roar of laughter burst from the assembled band, at the rider and his steed; the whole corps gave him three times three cheers as he bolted into camp. He was carried to quarters in triumph there to dream of lovers, metamorphoses, backward rides, sterner advances, alarm of invasion, and thereby garnish his mind, with material for writing a splendid treatise on the novel adventure of a cow-ride.

The Soldier Girl.

The young female noticed yesterday as having sought to be received into the 31st Cavalry turned out to be Lizzie Compton, the young soldier girl whose career has been noticed by Western and Southern papers.

This girl was taken to the police station yesterday. It was supposed that she was an adventurer, like many who have appeared in a similar disguise, and was therefore regarded as a disorderly person. The chief found her in Worden's saloon, talking with a young man, and told her that she was wanted by the police magistrate. She replied that she would go to him, but begged that she might be permitted to go out of the saloon unattended, that she might not appear to be under arrest. Her wish was complied with, and Lizzie, in a few minutes, stood before the magistrate—a fine specimen of a young soldier, ready to give an account of herself.

She stated that she was about sixteen years of age, assuming that she had been correctly informed as to the date of her birth. Her parents died in her infancy, near Nashville, Tennessee, and she was left, as too many children are, to the tender mercies of unfeeling wretches. She was put into the field to work at an early age, and was never taught any duties of the household. When a child she wore a frock, but really never was fully clad in the apparel of her sex. At the age of thirteen, when the rebellion commenced, she put on the clothes of a boy, and worked about the steamboats of the Western rivers. At length she sought a place in the army as a bugler, on which instrument she soon excelled.

Lizzie has been eighteen months in the service, and in seven or eight regiments. She got into ranks by fraud, taking the place of some person who had passed muster, and was discharged as soon as her sex was discovered. Among the regiments in which she served were the 79th New York, 8th, 17th and 28th Michigan, and 2d Minnesota. Her first engagement was at Mill Springs, and she relates minutely the details of the fall of Zollicoffer. She was captured, with her company, by the guerrilla Morgan, near Gallatin, Tenn. She fought at Fort Donelson, Shiloh, and several other places in the West. Finally she went to the Army of the Potomac, and got into the 79th New York. At the battle of Fredericksburg, early in June, she was wounded in the side by a piece of shell, and the surgeon discovered and disclosed her sex, which led to her dismissal after recovery in the hospital. — Rochester Union.

Boots and Shoes!

THE LOW PRICE STORE is the place to buy your Heavy Boots for Winter, Women's and Children's Wear of every description. Here is a chance to save money.

RICE & SMITH.

Not a Rum Drink!

A Highly Concentrated VEGETABLE EXTRACT!

A PURE TONIC, THAT RELIEVES THE AFFLICTED, AND NOT MAKE DRUNKARDS.

Dr. Hoofland's GERMAN BITTERS,

PREPARED BY DR. C. M. JACKSON, PHILADELPHIA, PA., WILL EFFECTUALLY AND MOST CERTAINLY CURE ALL DISEASES ARISING FROM A

DISORDERED LIVER, STOMACH, OR KIDNEYS.

Thousands of our citizens are suffering from DYSPEPSIA AND LIVER DISEASE, and to whom the following questions apply—we guarantee

Hoofland's German Bitters WILL CURE THEM. DYSPEPSIA AND LIVER DISEASE.

Do you rise with a coated tongue in the morning, with bad taste in the mouth and no appetite for breakfast? Do you feel when you first get up so weak and languid you can scarcely get about? Do you have a dizziness in the head at times, and often a dullness, with a little occasional headache? Are your bowels costive and irregular, and appetite exchangeable? Do you feel a fullness after eating, and a sinking when the stomach is empty? Do you have heartburn, or do you feel the food in the stomach, and look on the dark side of things? Are you not usually nervous at times? Do you not become restless, and often lay still midnight before you can go to sleep and then at times, don't you feel full of sleep most of the time? If you are sick, dry and scaly? Also, in short, is not your life a burden, full of forebodings?

HOOFLAND'S GERMAN BITTERS WILL CURE EVERY CASE OF Chronic or Nervous Debility, Disease of the Kidneys, and Diseases arising from a Disordered Stomach.

Observe the following Symptoms Resulting from Disorders of the Digestive Organs: Constipation, Indigestion, Flatulence, Headache, Nausea, Heartburn, Disordered Stomach, Fullness or Weight in the Stomach, Sour Eructations, Sinking or Fluttering at the Pit of the Stomach, Swelling of the Head, Headache and difficult Breathing, Fluctuating at the Heart, Choking or suffocating sensations when in a lying posture, Dimness of Vision, Dots or webs before the Sight, Fever and Thill Pain in the Head, Deficiency of Force, Loss of the Skin and Eyes.

Pain in the Flesh, Constipation, Headache, and great Depression of spirits. Particular Notice. There are many preparations sold under the name of Bitters, put up in quart bottles, compounded of cheap, cheap whiskey or common rum, costing from 20 to 40 cents per bottle. These are the Bitters of the market. By their use the system is kept continually under the influence of Alcoholic Stimulants of the worst kind, the desire for Liquor is created and kept up, and the results all the more disastrous upon a drunkard's life and health. For those who desire and will have a Lignol Bitters, we publish the following receipt. Get One Bottle of Hoofland's German Bitters and mix with Three Quarts of Good Whiskey or Rum, and the result will be a preparation that will far exceed in medicinal virtues and true excellence any of the numerous Lignol Bitters in the market, and will cost much less. You will see the strength of Hoofland's Bitters in connection with a good article of Liquor, at a much less price than these inferior preparations will cost you.

From J. NEWTON BROWN, D. D. Editor of the Eclectic Review of Religious Knowledge. Although not disposed to favor or recommend Patent Medicines in general, through distrust of their ingredients and effects; yet I know of no sufficient reason why a man may not testify to the benefit he believes himself to have received from any simple preparation, in the hope that he may thus contribute to the benefit of others.

I do this the more readily in regard to Hoofland's German Bitters, prepared by Dr. C. M. Jackson, of this city, because I was prejudiced against them for many years, under the impression that they were chiefly an alcoholic mixture. I am now a confirmed teetotaler, and I can testify to the benefit he believes himself to have received from any simple preparation, in the hope that he may thus contribute to the benefit of others.

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FAMILY GROCERY.

AB BECKER & CO.,

Have Received A New and Fresh Stock

Family Groceries,

Which they intend to sell as low as any other House in Northern Indiana.

Their Stock consists of Coffee, Sugar, Molasses, Syrup, Rice, Tobacco, Pepper, Allspice, Queensware, of Every Description, Woodware, of All Kinds, such as is kept in a Good Grocery Store.

Country Produce

They will keep a full stock of Country Produce for exchange for Goods.

Remember the place—One door above S. & M. Beckers Dry Goods and Clothing Store, No. 2, Corbin's Block.

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SPLENDID ASSORTMENT OF

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ONE PRICE

CASH SYSTEM!

ONE person writes, her daughter was cured of fits of nine years standing, and St. Vitus' dance of two years.

ANOTHER writes, her son was cured after his flesh had almost wasted away.

ANOTHER was cured of Fever and Ague after trying every medicine in his reach.

ANOTHER was cured of Fever Sore which had existed fourteen years.

ANOTHER of Rheumatism of eight years. Cases innumerable of Dyspepsia and Liver Complaint could be mentioned in the Purifier and Pills.

Work like a Charm. The Blood Pills

are the most active and thorough pills that have ever been introduced.

They act so directly upon the Liver, exciting that organ to such an extent as that the system does not relax into its former condition, which is too apt to be the case with simply a purgative pill.

They are really a Blood and Liver Pill, which, in conjunction with the Blood Purifier, will cure all the aforementioned diseases, and of themselves, will relieve and cure Headache, Constipation, Colic, Cholera, Pain in the Bowels, Indigestion, Giddiness, &c.

Try these medicines, and you will never regret it. Ask your neighbors, who have used them, and they will say they are Good Medicines, and you should try them before going for a physician.

Get a Pamphlet or Almanac of my local agent, and read the certificates, and if you have ever doubted you will Doubt no more.

As a proof that the Blood Purifier and Pills are purely vegetable, I have the certificates of those eminent chemists, Professor Cutler of N. Y., and Lewis of Cincinnati. Read Dr. Becker's Special Notice and Certificate published in a complete part of this paper from time to time.

Price of the Blood Purifier and Pills, 25 cents per bottle, or \$1 per half dozen. Of the Blood Purifier, 25 cents per bottle, or \$1 per half dozen. Principal Office and Salesroom, No. 2 East Third St., Buffalo, N. Y. Sole Agents, Dr. C. M. Jackson, No. 10 Hammond Street.

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For Sale by Druggists and Dealers in every town in the United States.

NEW Boot and Shoe Store!

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Having opened a BOOT and SHOE STORE, on West Michigan Street, in the room recently occupied by Thayer & Co., respectfully asks a portion of the patronage of the people of Marshall county, which he will endeavor to merit by keeping a general assortment and all kinds of

Boots and Shoes,

and by selling CHEAPER than any other house in the place. His stock embraces LADIES' BOOTS AND SHOES of every quality, as well as gentlemen's. He also keeps a good supply of

Home Made Work

on hand, and warrants satisfaction when work made to order. Give him a call. Sent, 10, 1863.—y

PLOWS! PLOWS!

The Farmers of Marshall and adjoining counties will find at the Plymouth Foundry, a large number of Plows of the most improved patterns, at very low prices.

Farmers are requested to call and examine a new Plough called the "QUEEN OF THE FIELD." It cannot fail to meet their approval. It is the best plough that has yet been got up.

Ploughs Stocked and Repaired.

Ploughs Stocked and Repaired on short notice and liberal terms. Orders solicited.

Woodsawing Machines.

He also manufactures Home Power Wood Sawing Machines. Call and examine them.

The highest price in Cash paid for old iron.

April 23, 1863.—25tf

JAMES MITCHELL.

THE SCANDINAVIAN

"He post-up lines extracts are proven. For the whole household is a cure."

DR. ROBACK'S BLOOD PURIFIER and BLOOD PILLS

have been introduced to the public for more than six years, and have acquired an Immense Popularity, far exceeding any Family Medicine of a similar nature in the market.

An appreciating public was not long in discovering they possessed remarkable Curative Properties, and hence their Rapid Sale

and consequent profit to the Proprietor, thus enabling him to expand

Many Thousands of dollars each year in advertising their merits, and publishing the

Numerous Certificates which have been showered upon him from All parts of the Country.

The peculiarity of the Blood Purifier and Pills is that they strike at the root of disease, by eradicating every particle of impurity

In the Blood, for the life and health of the body depends upon the purity of the blood.

If the blood is poisoned, the body drags out a miserable existence. These medicines are unequalled for curing

Boraculus, Skin Diseases, Salt Rheum, Gout,